permits. There is no information regarding loss of revenue.

Encouragement to Laminated Jute Bag Industry

1736. DR. MOHD. HASHIM KIDWAI: Will the Minister of TEXTILES be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that by reserving laminated jute bags for packing fertilisers, foreign exchange amounting to Rs. 100 crores now spent in the import of HDPE, a raw material for making HDPE/PP bags, can be saved;

(b) if so, whether Government have any proposal under their consideration for encouraging the laminated jute bag industry; and

(c) if so, what are the details of the measures taken in this regard?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF TEXTILES (SHRI S. KRISHNA KUMAR): (a) to (c) The Jute Industry including Jute Laminating Industry has been passing through crisis in recent years mainly on account of stiff competition from HDPE/PP sacks. With effect from 1st June, 1987, the Central Government has directed under section 3(1) of Jute Packing Materials (Compulsory Use in Packing Commodities) Act, 1987 that following commodities shall be packed in jute packaging material for supply or distribution in such minimum percentage as specified below:—

Commodities	Percentage of total production of commodity or class of commodities required to be packed in jute packaging material
1. Foodgrains	100 %
2. Sugar	100%
3. Cement	70%
4. Fertilizers, excluding :	50%
(a) Calcium Ammonium Nitrate	(CAN)
(b) Ammonium Nitraphosphate	(ANP)
(c) Single Superphosphate	(SSP)
(d) Suphala-produced by RCF, Trombay.	
(e) Triple Superphosphate	(TSP)

U.N. Observers in Jammu and Kashmir

1737. SHRI CHITTA BASU: Will the Minister of EXTERNAL AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Chief Minister of Jammu and Kashmir recently requested the Central Government to take up the issue of withdrawal of the U.N observers stationed in Jammu and Kashmir as there is no role left for them after the Shimla Agreement between India and Pakistan; and

(b) if so, what is Central Government's reaction thereto?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS (SHRI K. NATWAR SINGH): (a) Government have seen Media reports to this effect.

(b) Government have made it clear to the United Nations that UN observers have no role to play in Jammu and Kashmir.